

# Child Welfare League of America, Inc.

130 East Twenty-second Street, New York City

## Bulletin

NEW SERIES, VOL. VII, No. 8

OCTOBER 15, 1928

*Your children are not your children.  
They are the sons and daughters of Life's longing for  
itself.*

*They come through you but not from you,  
And though they are with you yet they belong not to you.*

*You may give them your love but not your thoughts,  
For they have their own thoughts.  
You may house their bodies but not their souls,  
For their souls dwell in the house of tomorrow, which you  
cannot visit, not even in your dreams.*

*You may strive to be like them, but seek not to make them  
like you.*

*For life goes not backward nor tarries with yesterday.*  
KAHLIL GIBRAN, *The Prophet*.

### NEW ENGLAND REGIONAL CONFERENCE

The New England Regional Conference of the Child Welfare League of America will be held in Boston, November 13 and 14. The tentative program is as follows:

TUESDAY, November 13, 10:30 A. M.

Chairman: Alfred F. Whitman, Executive Secretary,  
Children's Aid Association.

What is practical in parental education?

Miriam Van Waters, Juvenile Court, Los  
Angeles, Calif.

1 P. M. Luncheon meeting.

1:45 P. M. Chairman: Ralph Barrow, Executive Sec-  
retary, Connecticut Children's Aid Society.

The year's developments in the children's field.

C. C. Carstens, Executive Director.

Child Welfare League of America, Inc.

2:30 P. M. Discussion. Speaker to be announced.

3:30 P. M. Chairman: Miss Mary Byers Smith,  
Bethesda Society.

The Older and Delinquent Girl.

Miss Helen D. Pidgeon, International Asso-  
ciation of Policewomen.

4 P. M. Discussion from the floor.

6 P. M. Dinner meeting.

7 P. M. Chairman: Dr. Payson Smith, Commis-  
sioner of Education, Commonwealth of Massa-  
chusetts.

Socialized Education.

Eugene R. Smith, Beaver County Day School.

WEDNESDAY, November 14, 9:30 A. M.

Chairman: Cheney C. Jones, Supt.

New England Home for Little Wanderers.

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### INSTITUTION NEWS

In February, 1928, the Child Welfare League of America set up a demonstration of children's case work in connection with the Franklin County Children's Home at Columbus, Ohio, at the request of the trustees of the institution.

The old congregate institution is outworn and totally unsuited from the physical side for a modern children's program. Plans for a new building have been considered from time to time over a period of fifteen years. However, it has never been possible to determine how large a unit is actually needed because there has never been adequate case work service. The child-placing previous to the demonstration was almost exclusively free home placement. Thus for years there had been collecting in the institution a residue of children who could not be returned to their own people and who were unfit for free home placement because of mental or physical defects. The trustees decided to set up the necessary machinery in order to determine what could be done even in a limited time in the way of (1) placement of children in both free and boarding homes, (2) family rehabilitation and (3) direct placement in family homes without institutional care.

The demonstration period began with the arrival of the case work executive and one assistant early in February. In March two additional members were added to the staff, making a total of five workers, including the visitor who previously did the placement work for the institution. In April, May, June and July the staff comprised six workers and during August four. Thus, during the period ending August 31 there was a total of 36 workers-months, making an aggregate of six months' time for the full staff of six workers.

The demonstration has been able to show what can be done even with a difficult population when institutional care is supplemented by the use of both free homes and boarding homes. In many instances children referred to the Franklin County Children's Home were physically and mentally below grade. Because practically only free home placing was used a considerable number of these children remained in the institution for extended periods.

(Continued on page 4, column 2)

## SUPERVISION IN THE FOSTER HOME

MRS. EDITH M. H. BAYLOR  
Children's Aid Association  
Boston, Mass.

The word *supervision*, like many others in the often ambiguous terminology of social work, varies greatly in its connotation. When, in a child-placing agency, it is applied to the work of the visitor who has in her care a group of children, it has usually one of two meanings. First: That implied by the word *inspection*, one of the synonyms given in the dictionary. Second: That conveyed in the complicated process which involves understanding human beings in their relationships for the purpose of helping the children to become free personalities. No one word has yet been found that is sufficiently comprehensive to express all the implications involved.

The inspection type of foster home visit may be detected frequently in the recorded history of the child. This is, however, not always the case, because in the earlier days of social work records were written in long hand and contained brief, unrevealing statements. The fact that the visitor went to the home was noted but little more was said. It should be remembered that in this early period agencies were smaller and that the few workers talked out their problems and difficulties informally with one another so that the decisions made in regard to treatment were usually the result of a consensus of opinion, often wise and effective. Even later, however, when stenographic help was available, the records frequently gave no satisfactory picture of the actual methods of the workers or of the results attained by them. These facts can only be inferred from final outcomes.

Sometimes records are found in which the statement is made repeatedly that the home was visited and found to be "neat and clean" and that the child was "entirely satisfactory." This is valuable information certainly, but one is likely to question whether the visitor had penetrated below the surface and whether she had entered into the real life of the child and the foster family. This inspection type of visiting, indicated by such a record, does not guide and direct, nor does it foresee and circumvent trouble; it follows after and picks up the pieces.

Inspection is usually quantitative. A certain number of visits must be made within prescribed time limits. The emphasis upon frequency has been very likely the result of a reaction to the early methods of placing that prevailed in many parts of the United States, when children were shipped to distant points and seldom, if ever, seen again by a representative of the agency which had placed them. An awakened consciousness in regard to the responsibility of the agency followed the White

House Conference in 1909 and may have resulted in an overzealous carrying out of the letter of the law with the consequent stifling of its spirit.

It is what the visitor actually does and accomplishes with the child that is all-important. Obviously a reasonable frequency of visits is necessary, but attention, we believe, should not be focused upon this point.

It is doubtful whether any worker can say how she herself obtains results in a given situation. If she has fifty children in care, she has fifty entirely different situations to meet. Think of the people involved in every case! There will be the child himself, his own family, the foster family, teachers, friends, neighbors and so on ad infinitum. These individuals and their relationships represent life in flux. The hope of success lies in the worker herself, who must develop qualities of understanding and resourcefulness so flexible that she may call upon them at any time. She will recognize that her methods are in process of evolution, and consequently that the meaning of *supervision* may change from year to year.

A new discovery, a book by a master in one of the fields of science that interpenetrate social work, will modify in marked degree a plan of treatment. For example, a worker who has even a slight knowledge of the results of glandular disturbance may interpret more intelligently certain symptoms shown by a child and arrange for physical examination and proper medical care. The life of some babies has without doubt been saved by early recognition of enlarged thymus.

Psychology and psychiatry have had marked effect upon supervision. With increased knowledge of the child himself, of his mental mechanisms, of his abilities and disabilities, the visitor enters the home with cleared vision. She is alive to the subtleties of human relationships. She also recognizes that no situation is static and estimates in the child and in the foster home the possibilities of development. Through a network of interlacing influences she helps the child to maintain his equilibrium. The visitor who is wise in her supervision will be able to anticipate difficulties and may succeed in preventing them, but to accomplish this she must have won the confidence of the child and the foster family. She must be the thoughtful and intentional friend, so to speak.

So much has been said recently about the overdependency of one individual upon another and about the resulting disasters that young workers are feeling that they should show much restraint in dealing with clients. There is, in our opinion, grave danger of carrying this idea too far. In thinking back through our own lives of the people who have been constructive influences we shall never find one who maintained an entirely detached attitude.

In a recent article Adolph Meyer says: "What I feel under special obligation to warn against is the false assumption that the so-called new psychiatry has in any way removed us from the need and obligation and right to use our plain common sense, subject to trial." Common sense applied to the relationship between visitor and child will help in building up friendship in which there is no unwholesome quality.

The worker who is successful has her place in the circle of the foster family. She meets the different members under a variety of circumstances, she writes letters to the child and to the others as opportunity offers. In other words, she endeavors to know them and to have them know her. That this is not always possible we all know from painful experience, but that it is an achievable ideal in a large percentage of cases is surely true. It is unwise to allow an occasional inevitable failure to deflect one from the really hopeful results that may be obtained by supervision at its best.

#### FINANCIAL CONFERENCE

On October 27 and 28, a Conference on Modern Methods of Fund Raising and the Attendant Publicity was held in New York under the auspices of the Child Welfare League of America, Inc. A report on the conference will be available to League members in the near future.

#### PROGRESS OF MOTHERS' AID ADMINISTRATION

The September, 1928, issue of *The Social Service Review* contains an article by Emma O. Lundberg summarizing the existing practices in the administration of mothers' aid throughout the United States and pointing out signs of progress.

Miss Lundberg presents concrete data which are of inestimable value in crystallizing the hazy ideas most of us have regarding the influence which mothers' aid laws have had on child dependency. In some states, as in New York, for example, the introduction of the "widows' pension" bill was branded by the conservatives as the beginning of a swing to paternalism and socialism.

In a period of approximately fifteen years the theory of public aid to mothers has been written into the statutes of 44 states and the District of Columbia. The article points out, however, that the administration followed by some of these states is not uniformly satisfactory. A survey covering the United States in 1927 showed that approximately 200,000 children were beneficiaries of mothers' aid.—M. I. A.

The Southern Regional Conference will be held in Atlanta, December 3 and 4.

#### NEW ENGLAND REGIONAL CONFERENCE PROGRAM

(Continued from page 1)

What determines the allocation of a child to an institution or to foster home care?

Dr. Augusta F. Bronner, Judge Baker Foundation.

10 A. M. Discussion from the point of view of the institution.

Dr. Louis B. Wolfenson, Supt., Home for Jewish Children.

From the point of view of the child-placing agency.

Miss Katharine P. Hewins, Church Home Society.

1 P. M. Luncheon meeting. Chairman: Theodore A. Lothrop, General Secretary, Massachusetts S.P.C.C.

Undifferentiated case work for a rural community.

Miss L. Josephine Webster, General Secretary, Vermont Children's Aid Society.

Miss Susan B. Plant, State of Maine Branch, New England Home for Little Wanderers.

ROUND TABLE MEETINGS: 11:45-12:45.

The function and opportunity of the Board of Directors.

Leader: Mrs. Eva W. White, Simmons College, School of Social Work.

The value to the community of the visiting teacher.

Leader: Mrs. Laura B. Makinson, District Secretary, Connecticut Children's Aid Society.

The treatment of the older girl. (Is this a function of a Children's Aid Society or one for a specialized society?)

Leader: Mrs. Ada Eliot Sheffield, Department of Public Welfare, Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

Place of the institution in a community program.

Leader: Rev. George P. O'Connor, Catholic Charitable Bureau.

Case work in a rural community.

Leader: Miss Lucy A. Turner, Worcester Children's Friend Society.

Behavior problems.

Leader: Miss Deborah Barus, Sharon, Mass.

All meetings will be held at the Twentieth Century Club.

Two highly skilled social-worker parents, after careful deliberation, have reached the conclusion that the mental health of their three-year-old is best safeguarded at times by a spanking. Recently the father administered this punishment. He remarked to his wife that he thought she would find a very penitent young lady when she went into the bedroom where the spanking had taken place. The mother waited for ten or fifteen minutes and then opened the bedroom door.

"Mamma," exclaimed the supposedly penitent one as her mother walked into the room, "why did you leave me alone with that man?"



### THE CHILD WELFARE LEAGUE OF AMERICA

*President*—ALBERT H. STONEMAN, Detroit  
*1st Vice-President*—J. PRENTICE MURPHY, Philadelphia  
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*Executive Director*—C. C. CARSTENS

YOUR CHILD TODAY AND TOMORROW. Gruenberg, Sidonie Matsner. J. B. Lippincott Co. 255 pp. Third Edition, 1928, \$2.50.

Here is a useful book. For the benefit of those of us who are not psychologists the writer in simple terms discusses the reactions of parents and children as they confront various situations. There are enough illustrative descriptions of behavior to make the book seem practical.

"It had been quiet for several minutes, four or five perhaps. Suddenly the silence was broken by the crash of breaking glass and china, and the thump of hardware striking the floor. Frank had been experimenting with the lamp, contrary to the repeated admonitions and prohibitions of his mother. It was a good lamp, moreover, and one that mother valued very highly."

This incident, with an account of how the efficient though indignant mother sees the educational possibilities in the situation introduces the chapter on learning the use of money.

The book is not impressive as a scientific presentation. There are too many positive conclusions without a record of supporting evidence. But reading it as a parent and as a social worker, I feel that in several of the chapters there is revealed a richness of philosophy and experience which cannot be found in most books on child training.

Whether as a parent after a day's work you ponder over your own child's genius for disobedience; whether as a spinster-employee of a social agency you have just replaced in a foster home some cantankerous child; or whether as an institution worker you have just been told to go to hell by one of your difficult boys—you will find comfort and aid in reading the chapter on obedience.

Others chapters which seem unusually valuable deal with the following subjects: learning the use of money, sex education, when your child imagines things, punishments and rewards, truth and falsehood, ideals and ambitions, gangs, clubs and friendships.

Parents humbled by their frailties as reflected in their own children will welcome this book. Social workers who care to improve their understanding of the peculiarities of ordinary children will find the book valuable.—H. W. HOPKIRK.

### INSTITUTION NEWS

(Continued from page 1)

During the seven months—February 1 to September 1—the number of wards increased slightly, from 270 to 302. The number of children remaining in the institution decreased from 150 to 76. The number of children placed in family homes increased from 120 to 226, and on October 1st, following the same trend, there were but 64 children in the institution and 237 in foster homes. The number of children under supervision in the various types of homes were as follows for the first day of each month from May to September:

	May	June	July	August	September
Total in family homes	129	144	161	206	226
Boarding homes.....	22	33	49	91	115
Wage homes.....	5	7	15	16	25
Adoptive homes.....	12	11	13	13	13
Free homes.....	58	59	48	45	45
Relatives' homes.....	20	20	23	25	25
Elsewhere.....	10	10	9	11	11
Temporarily in an institution or hospital	2	4	4	5	1

One of the most significant developments during the course of the demonstration was the direct placement of children without receiving them into the institution. This was made possible through the provision of funds for boarding children. The success with which such placements were made during the last months of the demonstration period indicates the future possibility of reducing institution intake very greatly.

In March, 2 children were placed direct; in April, 8; in May, 2; in July, 17; in August, 12.

This is, however, no new venture in connection with the care of wards of Franklin County. It is simply the application to the work done from the Franklin County Home of a method that has been pursued by the Division of Charities of the State Department of Public Welfare in their placement of Franklin County children committed to them. Practically all placements by the State have in the first instance been in boarding homes. The State can charge to the county the money that is needed for such care of children received from the County, whereas the budget of the County Home formerly contained only a very small amount for boarding home care. The consequence has been the institutionalizing of a large number of children who, after long periods of life in the institution, or repeated trials in free homes for which they were unsuited, are very difficult to adjust to family homes. The provision of a boarding home fund of \$12,000 for the year 1928 made it possible to change the situation materially. For the year 1929 the recommended budget for the Franklin County Children's Home provides \$50,000 for boarding home care. By this means the evils that arise through the limited program of institutional and free home care

can be largely prevented, and in the future it will be possible to provide for each child the kind of care that is suited to his needs.

### AMERICAN CHILD HEALTH

The American Child Health Association held its annual meeting in Chicago, October 15 to 19. Of the papers presented, those which punctured some of the balloons which have been floating about in the field of child health the past ten or fifteen years were the most stimulating. The slogan that "a clean tooth never decays," according to Dr. William R. Davis, Director of the Bureau of Mouth Hygiene, Michigan Department of Health, has done great harm in preventive dentistry.

"We have led school boards and teachers to believe that tooth brush drills and cleaning teeth are the whole thing in a dental health program," said Dr. Davis. "Use of the toothbrush is a good habit, like taking a bath or washing the face. In certain cases it will help prevent decay. Twice a day—before going to bed and after breakfast—is a reasonable frequency to teach. Why teach five times, which is unreasonable?"

"The two greatest factors in mouth hygiene are diet and early dental attention. It has been proven quite conclusively that wrong diet promotes decay and correct diet retards decay."

Dr. James Frederick Rogers, Chief of the Division of School Hygiene & Physical Education of the U. S. Bureau of Education, reviewed the school health work of the country at a joint session of the American Child Health Association and the American Public Health Association. Dr. Rogers made the following comments:

"Twenty-four out of fifty-four health-habit authorities in a recent survey advise the school child regardless of age, size, activity, season, indoor or outdoor climate, clothing or any other condition to drink 'a quart or more' of water daily. Apparently these hygienists were not aware that water taken in excess acts as a poison or they would have been more explicit as regards the 'more.' We are too explicit with regard to some health practices and are too vague with regard to others."

After more than ten years' use of height-weight tables it has been discovered that a third factor, width, should be taken into consideration. Dr. Raymond Franzen, Research Director of the American Child Health Association's School Health Study, is responsible for this heartening statement. Dr. Franzen calls our attention to the fact that the body is a cylinder which has diameter as well as height. Two cylinders of the same material and the same height may have very different weights depending on their diameters. For this reason Dr. Franzen points out that the width and depth must be known as well as the height before a person's weight can be considered deficient.

### SIX YEARS IN PENNSYLVANIA COUNTIES

How more than seven hundred children are receiving thoughtful and understanding care of case workers in eight counties, where such care did not exist six years ago, is the story of "Six Years in Pennsylvania Counties" issued by the Children's Aid Society of Pennsylvania. It was prepared by Miss Abigail F. Brownell of the County Agency Department and is illustrated with a map and with figures for each of the county agencies. The statistics are illustrated with sunbonnet babies to show the numbers of children who are cared for, and with cottages to show the foster family homes. Accompanying each page of statistics is a description of the development of the County Agency.

Edwin D. Solenberger, General Secretary, states that to previous large gifts for the extension of county work for children in Pennsylvania, Mrs. Carroll S. Tyson, Jr., Director of the Pennsylvania Children's Aid Society, has added another, which has made possible the opening of a ninth County Branch at Altoona. Mrs. Tyson has also given an additional fund which will make it possible to open one and perhaps two more counties on a demonstration basis. The growing recognition by various groups throughout Pennsylvania of the value in children's work of the modern case work method is most encouraging for the future.—(Summary of review prepared by Philadelphia Children's Aid Society.)

### WHEN IS A COMMUNITY READY FOR A CHILD GUIDANCE CLINIC?

In the July issue of *Mental Hygiene* appears the paper presented at the Memphis Conference by Dr. George S. Stevenson, of the National Committee for Mental Hygiene, entitled, "When Is a Community Ready for a Child Guidance Clinic?"

Members of the Child Welfare League of America who did not hear Dr. Stevenson at Memphis are urged to read this excellent analysis of the many factors incident to the establishment and successful operation of a child guidance clinic.

The League field staff has had the experience of going into a community having limited social resources and being told that an effort was under way to secure a clinic, the implication being that this additional machinery would solve all the existing problems. When it has been pointed out that a child guidance clinic cannot function satisfactorily without other fundamental facilities there has sometimes been a disposition on the part of certain communities to question the League's appreciation of the importance of child guidance service. Dr. Stevenson's paper expresses the League's position exactly and with much greater authority than the League itself could possibly speak.



## LEAGUE ACTIVITIES

October first marked the beginning of a case-work program undertaken by the Indianapolis Orphans' Home for a period of one year and financed by the Indianapolis Foundation. The League is supervising the demonstration, and at the end of the period will assist the institution, which gives custodial care and also does child placing, in outlining its future program in the light of the needs revealed by the year's work.

During the summer the State Industrial School at Manchester, New Hampshire, and the New Hampshire Orphans' Home at Franklin were studied at the request of the Governor of the State, Hon. Huntley G. Spaulding. Social resources for the prevention and treatment of delinquency and dependency and the State's provision for mothers' aid were considered in their relationship to the work of these two institutions.

A brief study of Kenosha County, Wisconsin, was made during the latter half of August and September to determine the extent and quality of service to children in that county as a basis for the development of a county-wide plan for child welfare activities. This study was undertaken at the instance of the Wisconsin Children's Code Committee.

The survey of fifteen orphanages operated by the Presbyterian Church, South, located in thirteen southern states, was completed by Mr. Hopkirk in July. This constitutes one of the most intensive pieces of work done by the League for church groups.

The Franklin County demonstration is referred to elsewhere in this issue of the BULLETIN.

In November, work will be begun in Cincinnati in connection with the Cincinnati Children's Home and the Cincinnati Orphan Asylum, two of the oldest institutions in the city. The Children's Home provides both institution and boarding home care so that the project will be much more far-reaching than a mere appraisal of institutional policies. The Orphan Asylum is asking for an evaluation of its work in order to determine what its future should be in the light of the social changes which have taken place in the community during the past fifteen years.

Niagara Falls is planning for a survey of its child-caring work at an early date in order to learn what provision should be made as a basis for a child guidance clinic proposed to be established by a Foundation.

## ENCLOSURES

(Sent to members only)

PROGRESS OF MOTHERS' AID ADMINISTRATION. Reprint of an article by Miss Emma O. Lundberg, which appeared in *The Social Service Review* in September, 1928.

BURNED TO DEATH. Circular distributed by the Children's Aid Society, 52 Niagara Street, Buffalo, N.Y.

## NEWS FROM OUR MEMBERS

During the two months in which there has been no issue of the BULLETIN, a number of interesting reports and bulletins from member agencies have been received. CHILD PLACING IN OHIO, by Esther McClain, of the Ohio Department of Public Welfare, presents the principles underlying child placing and records the progress in service to children made by both public and private agencies in Ohio during the past decade. It also gives a résumé of the development of boarding home care, both in foreign countries and in the United States. Member agencies which have not received copies directly from the Ohio Department can secure copies from Miss Esther McClain, Ohio Department of Public Welfare, Columbus, Ohio.

HANGING 'ROUND AN ORPHANAGE, by Rev. L. Ross Lynn, President of Thornwell Orphanage, Clinton, S. C., portrays various phases of the life at Thornwell, but the final chapter, "Some Convictions After Ten Years," gives a more general perspective on the whole field of child welfare.

"We have learned," writes Dr. Lynn, "with the passing of the years, and this has been increasingly borne in upon us, that the problem which we are trying to solve is not simply a 'child' problem. It is a 'family' problem, for the child has a mother or maybe a father, or brother or sister and other relatives. It is a social problem that affects the community and the Church. In solving the problem of the child, all the other factors have to be reckoned with and the whole problem must be met."

In the tenth annual report of Carson College for Orphan Girls the fundamental rights and needs of childhood are listed as follows:

(1) The need to be understood; (2) the need for mothering and an affectionate home life; (3) the need for health; (4) the need for friends; (5) the need for economic participation; (6) the need for an education which means free growth in power and understanding and (7) the need for a real vocational apprenticeship and for backing and support in the early stages of earning a living.

The report tells in a brief concise fashion the way in which Carson College seeks to meet these needs.

At the last annual meeting of the Philadelphia Children's Bureau there were between 225 and 250 people present. Invitations were confined to members of the board, the staff and the foster families.

A group picture which includes all of the guests gives one the sense of a community of interest shared by all who participate in the work of the Children's Bureau. After looking at this picture we have no reason to doubt Mr. Murphy's statement that on the day following the annual meeting it would be possible for him to place a raging lion or a chimpanzee in a foster home.

The September issue of the *Little Wanderers' Advocate*, containing the 64th annual report of the New England Home for Little Wanderers, makes an ingenious use of letters from clients and social workers in interpreting the work of the various departments of the organization. As in other issues of the *Advocate*, there is a list of "Things We Need—An Opportunity for Practical Gifts"—which should forestall the donation of impractical and unnecessary articles with which institutions are sometimes harassed.

The Canadian Council on Child Welfare, 408 Plaza Building, Ottawa, Ontario, has issued a new Directory of Child Welfare Resources in the Dominion of Canada.

In the sixty-seventh annual report of the Henry Watson Children's Aid Society of Baltimore, entitled "In Loco Parentis," appears the following appreciation of the foster mother:

"To that unique member of our staff—a foster mother. She is an artist greater than she knows, for her motherhood has room enough for other people's children and her patience can wait long enough to understand someone else's child. Her imagination is even wide enough to include any child in any need.

"There is no yard-stick to measure such value. Her courage is more than courage, for it is unsung. Her spirit is more than good-will; to the child it is an open door, a new friend and security; to the society, its long arm of service.

"She speaks little for herself. Her activity begins with the sun and only ends when needs end. For her we speak, though we do not need to—she is her own reward."

On October 1st Mr. C. W. Areson, formerly on the League staff and for the past year executive secretary of the Wisconsin Children's Code Committee, went to Houston to take charge of the DePelchin Faith Home, an old institution which is equipping itself to carry out a modern child-caring program of which institutional care will be only a part.

#### CHANGES FOR DIRECTORY

DELAWARE—Children's Bureau of Delaware, Wilmington. Moved to 913 Tatnall Street.

KENTUCKY—Children's Bureau, Louisville. Arthur H. Taylor, Executive Secretary, has resigned.

OHIO—The Ohio Humane Society, Cincinnati. Mrs. Emily K. Smith, Executive Secretary, succeeds Mrs. Ruth I. Workum.

TENNESSEE—Children's Bureau, Inc., Memphis. Miss Elise de la Fontaine, Director, has resigned. Succeeded by Miss Clara E. Kummer.

WISCONSIN—Children's Home and Aid Society of Wisconsin, Milwaukee. Dr. Warren B. Hill, Superintendent, has resigned. Succeeded by Arthur H. Taylor.

CANADA—Children's Bureau of Montreal. Moved to 1421 Atwater Avenue.

(Continued from page 8)

should be responsible. Frequently it must, by way of some social agency, assume the parental function of guidance, care, education, and training. Why should the rest of us assume a burden that belongs properly to the father of a child?

These studies will not exhaust the field that needs to be covered. They will serve as a good beginning, however, and if by next summer answers to these questions can be obtained, progress in this important field of child-saving will have been made.

The officers of the Inter-City Conference would like to hear from the members as to matters that can profitably be treated in the articles that regularly appear in this BULLETIN. They would also appreciate obtaining lists of subjects that should be discussed at regional or national conferences. Furthermore, if any local conferences or committees are discussing worthwhile topics or are making important discoveries, the information should be sent to the Conference headquarters, so that it may be properly utilized. Address such communications to Miss Eleanor D. Myers, Secretary, 2221 Locust Street, St. Louis, Mo.

Membership dues, both individual and conference, are payable for the year from June, 1928, to June, 1929. Individual membership dues are \$1.00 and entitle the member to copies of the Child Welfare League BULLETIN for one year.

Conference dues are \$5.00. Checks should be made payable to Miss Hertha Miller, Treasurer, 3358 Westminster Place, St. Louis, Mo.

#### THE UNMARRIED MOTHER AND HER CHILD

Mrs. Mabel Mattingly, of the School of Applied Social Sciences, Western Reserve University, Cleveland, summarized her study of 53 unmarried mother cases in which the mothers kept their children.

Originally a thesis written by Mrs. Mattingly as a candidate for the degree of Master of Science in Social Administration, the study has been revised and published by the School of Applied Social Sciences. It is now available at 50c per copy.

"The Unmarried Mother and Her Child" raises many interesting questions regarding illegitimacy and makes a valuable contribution to the data available on this important phase of social work.

The Child Study Association of America has just issued a new book list, "Suggestions for a Parent's First Book Shelf." This list contains twenty-five titles with author, publisher and price, and should be extremely valuable to any one who is doing serious reading along the lines of child training. The price of this is 5c.



### INTER-CITY CONFERENCE ON ILLEGITIMACY BULLETIN

*President:* DR. GEORGE B. MANGOLD, Los Angeles, Cal.  
*Vice-President:* MISS LOUISE DRURY, Los Angeles, Cal.  
*Secretary:* MISS ELEANOR D. MYERS, St. Louis, Mo.  
*Treasurer:* MISS HERTHA MILLER, St. Louis, Mo.

### AN EVALUATION OF WORK WITH UNMARRIED MOTHERS

DR. GEORGE B. MANGOLD  
Dept. of Sociology, University of Southern California  
Los Angeles, California

The Inter-City Conference on Illegitimacy, at its meeting at Memphis, decided to undertake at least two studies during the year in order to learn more about the forms of treatment that should be applied to problems of illegitimacy. Much of the work attempted so far has been based on theories and principles that have not been adequately tested by the experience of social agencies. The time has come when definite attempts should be made to arrive at more solid conclusions and to determine, if possible, the probable results of certain specified forms of treatment.

Accordingly, an effort will be made during the winter to carry on two studies—one dealing with the outcome for the child, the other with the identity of the father. Various local conferences are being asked to participate in the task. It is expected that the agencies in certain cities will collect the relevant facts that may be discovered in connection with the cases that they have handled. If so, valuable information may be obtained.

The first study relates to the whereabouts and the social conditions of children who were handled not less than five years ago. We need to know the answer to such questions as: how large a proportion of the children are still alive, how many are living with their mothers, how many with both parents, how many have been taken away from their parents and how many are being cared for by father or mother but are living with neither parent? We need to know the extent to which illegitimate children have been placed out for adoption and whether or not institutions have become an important factor in the handling of such children. It would be both interesting and socially desirable to know whether the children can be traced after a lapse of five years and what their prospects for the future may be.

The placing-out of children under ordinary conditions has a creditable record. Does the record for the treatment of illegitimate children compare with the other or has it fallen behind? There are many who believe that the results obtained are far from satisfactory. We need to know what has been accomplished and what results are likely to occur under given conditions. If our

methods do not yield the outcome that is expected then we need to reconsider the program of care and treatment. If they do yield good results, if tried by our more responsible agencies, then an educational program must be attempted with the agencies that have failed to realize the goal. One of the questions deals with the age of the child when it is removed or separated from its mother. Is separation likely to occur after the mother has become acquainted with her baby? To what extent do we find that parental love actually functions? These questions and others of a similar nature will be answered by the cities that have agreed to carry on this phase of the survey. Other local conferences, however, are not debarred from making such a study, and if they desire to participate they should communicate at once with the president or secretary of the Inter-City Conference.

A brief exchange of experience narrated at the National Conference revealed the fact that the methods of dealing with the problem vary widely from each other in different parts of the country. It appeared, furthermore, that the principles on which treatment was based were far from uniform. In other words, there is a most chaotic condition in respect to the plans that should be attempted or carried out.

The second study is less complicated. We need to know more about the proportion of fathers about whom sufficient information is available to establish a reasonable presumption of paternity. Social workers often follow the line of least resistance and pay no attention to one-half of the parenthood problem. In many cases the interests of a child are best conserved by such action. However, neglect of the father may not be socially desirable even though the case can be well handled by ignoring him. That only a small proportion of fathers are required to assist in the support of their illegitimate children is well known. That this condition is inevitable is not so clear; nor is it the most effective preventive work to become negligent in this respect. The cities in which the most successful work has been done can throw considerable light on such questions as: what proportion of fathers are known to the agencies, what proportion are judicially declared the father of their child, to what extent is paternal support obtained either with or without recourse to the law, and how numerous are the cases in which the mother insists on concealing the identity of the father? Our laws on illegitimacy are largely child welfare laws. They are not primarily concerned with the problem of illegitimacy and, therefore, are not effective in reducing illegitimacy in any community. The work of many social agencies is in entire accord with this legal indifference and, as a consequence, the entire community must frequently take the place of the father. Often it must pay the bills for which he

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